Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the above-identified application, as follows:

Page 1, paragraph 2, lines 11-14, are amended, as follows:

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"Determining The Order And Frequency In Which Space Is Allocated On Individual Storage Devices," Sawdon et al., (Docket No. POU9-2000-0111-US1), Serial No. ——————— 09/618,332, filed herewith July 18, 2000; and

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Page 11, paragraph 1, lines 11-19, are amended, as follows:

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a²

Many different allocation techniques can be used to allocate space on the storage devices. Examples of such allocation techniques include a deterministic technique and a randomized technique, each of which is described in detail in co-filed, U.S. Patent Application Serial No.——————— 09/618,332, entitled "Determining The Order And Frequency In Which Space Is Allocated On Individual Storage Devices," Sawdon et al., filed ——————— July 18, 2000, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Page 19, paragraph 1, lines 5-15, are amended, as follows:

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a³

Various weighted allocation techniques are described in detail in co-filed, U.S. Patent Application Serial No.——————— 09/618,332, entitled "Determining The Order And Frequency In Which Space Is Allocated On Individual Storage Devices," Sawdon et al., filed ——————— July 18, 2000, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Examples of these techniques include a deterministic technique and a randomized technique. In one example, if the deterministic technique is used, the starting position within the stripe order is random. Thus, different file systems may begin at different positions within the stripe orders.